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Jun 11th 2019

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

Accepting business interests is a faustian bargain that will come back to bite you, so please represent the interests of the people who live under the reality your regulations (and/or lack thereof) are responsible for helping to bring about: the approach proven to work in Europe and elsewhere is aggressive forced competition by prying open the last mile to the customer and local competitors, just like existed for regular phone service that allowed the ISP industry to take off in the first place, in spite of their lies about history claiming only lack of regulation let it happen!

Nowadays, because Internet access is so critical a part of daily life, business-as-usual standards of so-called competition are in fact a stranglehold that effectively violates civil rights by unduly constraining citizens' ability to adequately exercise them in a meaningful way. You have got to understand that regional fiefdoms aren't good enough, and in the case of ISPs it's even more critical than with telecom before it because ISPs also now often function as media companies with their own content interests, as well. Censorship, tracking, and exploitive filtering/throttling, etc. represent unprecedented attacks upon freedom of speech and of expression, as well as present a dangerous potential for abuse of media exposure and, through it, manipulation.

I myself obtain Internet access through an independent ISP who only was able to serve me because their request forced AT&T by law regarding access to competitors, to fix their phone-pole switch for my block, which had been allowed to stay broken for years, denying anyone here landline service! I'm a poster-child for everything wrong with big ISPs and everything critical about competitive local ISPs that are in danger of being destroyed by big telecom, big media, big ISP special interest lobbying. Don't let it happen! I'm on a fixed income and am sensitive to wireless emissions, as well, so landline service is especially critical for me.

I appreciate your time to process what I have said in this message and I urge you to do the right thing for the individuals you are duty-bound to serve by passing the Bridge 2 Broadband initiative.

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